


**In the Claims:**

Please amend claims 1 and 3 as follows. Pursuant to the Revised Format of Amendments, the status of all of the claims is given below.

1. (Currently Amended) A multi-rate transmission apparatus ~~wherein a modulation system and in which~~ a coding ratio ~~are~~ is varied in accordance with ~~a~~ an input modulation operation mode ~~given thereto from the outside~~ to allow a transmission operation with a single input clock signal ~~inputted from the outside~~ in accordance with the input modulation mode, comprising:

 data processing means for reading in data ~~with~~ having a bit width suitable for ~~the~~ a modulation system corresponding to the input modulation mode;

coding means for performing coding processing parallelly for the data read in by said data processing means; and

transmission means for transmitting the data, for which the coding processing has been performed, in accordance with the ~~varied~~ modulation system and the varied coding ratio.

2. (Original) A multi-rate transmission apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said data processing means includes:

a transmission memory for storing transmission data of m-bit strings where m is a natural number and varies in accordance with the modulation system;

means for assembling the data of m-bit strings into data of n-bit strings fixed to be used for coding processing, n being a natural number; and  
a memory for temporarily storing the data of n-bit strings.

3. (Currently Amended) A multi-rate transmission apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said ~~parallel~~ coding means includes:

a register set for storing data of n-bit strings, n being a natural number;

a plurality of convolution coding circuits for fetching the data of n-bit strings from said register set and performing convolution processing for the data of n-bit strings in a unit of n-bit strings fixed;

a puncture circuit for performing puncture processing for coding results outputted from said plurality of convolution coding circuits and outputting coded data; and

a data discrimination circuit for discriminating bits corresponding to the coded data outputted from said puncture circuit.

4. (Original) A multi-rate transmission apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said transmission means includes:

a transmission control circuit for determining a transmission timing;

a modulation data allocation circuit for allocating the coded data to modulation data;

and

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a transmission circuit for transmitting the modulation data at a clock timing from said  
transmission control circuit.

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